and, if so, whether they will lay on the table the report as well as the decision of the Government in the matter?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): He has reported against a few Councillors. The reports are of a confidential nature and, as such, the correspondence cannot be laid on the table.

Instructions to the Official Members of the Trivandrum Municipal Council re voting.

29. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have issued any directions to the official members of the Trivandrum Municipal Council in the matter of voting and, if so, whether they will lay on the table a copy of such letter?

MR. N. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The answer to the first part is in the negative. The question in the second part does not therefore arise.

Appointments made by the Inspector of English Schools.

30. **MR. A. J. JOHN** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the appointments made by the present Inspector of English Schools after he assumed charge?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The statement* is laid on the table.

Opening of an English School at Kavalam.

31. **MR. A. J. JOHN** (*Vaikam*): With reference to the opening of an English School at Kavalam, Ambalapuzha taluk, will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:—

(*a*) the number of applications received for the opening of the English school;

(*b*) the names of the applicants and the respective dates of their applications;

(*c*) whether all the applications were sent to the Assistant Inspector;

(*d*) the officer to whom the applications have to be sent at first under the Education Code;

(*e*) whether there was any deviation in this and, if so, the urgent necessity for it;

(*f*) the action taken by the Assistant Inspector on each of these applications;

(*g*) whether the Assistant Inspector has raised any objection to the opening of any school and, if so, the nature of the objection;

(*h*) whether the Inspector of English Schools inspected any of the sites and, if so, which;

(*i*) whether the Inspector has left out any applicant's site unvisited and, if so, which and why;

(*j*) whether the Inspector has made any recommendation and, if so its nature;

* *Vide* Appendix—page 113.

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(*k*) the grounds for rejecting the other applications;

(*l*) whether the Director has visited the place and has ascertained the strength of the Vernacular Primary and the Vernacular Middle Schools at Kavalam and the neighbouring places; if so, the names of the schools the strength of which he has ascertained;

(*m*) the names of the schools the strength of which the Director has omitted to ascertain and the reasons therefor;

(*n*) the nearest school to the proposed school and the distance between the two;

(*o*) the number of canals and rivers to be crossed before the little boys can reach that school;

(*p*) the decision of the Director and the grounds on which it was made;

(*q*) whether the other applications were rejected; if so, the number and date of the letters communicating it to the applicants;

(*r*) whether the Director is aware of any such applicant conducting a school in expectation of sanction and, if so, the strength of that school;

(*s*) the strength of the sanctioned school; and

(*t*) the basis on which schools are generally recognised?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Nine.

(*b*) *Name of the applicants.*	*Dates of their applications.*
1. Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai, Ampattumadam House, Kannady	12-11-1923
2. Do. Do.	13-10-1924
3. Do. Do.	1-3-1101
4. Rev. Fr. Philip Mattom, Vicar, Catholic Church, Kavalam	23-8-1924
5. Fr. Jacob, Assistant Vicar, Do.	No date.
6. Rev. Fr. Thomas, Vicar, Do.	29-7-1101.
7. Mr. Yohannan Mathai, Vallikattu House, Kavalam	17-6-1101.
8. Do. Do.	21-7-1101.
9. Mr. Mannathu K. Padmanabha Pillai, General Secretary, Nair Service Society	8-2-1102.

(*c*) Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai forwarded all his three applications to the Inspector of English Schools who sent the first two to the Assistant Inspector of English Schools, Kottayam, for report. The third application, the Inspector himself disposed of without reference to the Assistant Inspector.

Rev. Fr. Philip Mattom applied to the Assistant Inspector of English Schools, Kottayam.

Fr. Jacob, Assistant Vicar, also sent his application to the Assistant Inspector.

The applications of Rev. Fr. Thomas and Mr. Yohannan Mathai were addressed to the Director. They were forwarded to the Inspector of English Schools who transmitted the same to the Assistant Inspector of English Schools, Kottayam, for report.

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Mr. Mapnathu K. Padmanabha Pillai sent his application to the Inspector of English Schools who did not forward it to the Assistant Inspector.

(*d*) The Inspector of English Schools.

(*e*) The question is not clear. There was no deviation from any rule.

(*f*) The Assistant Inspector inspected the sites proposed for the new schools and made reports to the Inspector on all the applications sent to him.

(*g*) The Assistant Inspector objected to the opening of the school applied for by Rev. Fr. Philip Mattom and Fr. Jacob, the Vicar and the Assistant Vicar, Kavalam Church, as he had already recommended the opening of a school at Kannady by Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai very near Kavalam. He recommended the opening of a school at Kavalam under Rev. Fr. Thomas. He did not recommend the application of Mr. Yohannan Mathai as the application was withdrawn on the ground that the Church authorities proposed to open a school.

(*h*) The Inspector of English Schools inspected all the sites. The sites are in Velianad, Kannady, Kunnumel, Chalayil and Vallikad.

(*i*) The answer is in the negative.

(*j*) The Inspector considered the various applications and recommended that permission be granted to the General Secretary of the Nair Service Society to open an English Middle School at Kavalam with the Preparatory Class and Form I to start with, from the beginning of the school year 1927-28.

(*k*) Mr. Yohannan Mathai withdrew his application—*vide* part (*g*) above.

The Inspector did not recommend the application of Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai as the site proposed by him was too near the existing school at Pulincunnu. He did not recommend the application of the Vicar, Kavalam Church, on the following grounds:

(*i*) The existing school at Pulincunnu is under the management of the Roman Catholic Christians and it would not be fair to other communities to permit a second school also to be started in the same pakuthi under their management.

(*ii*) The school at Pulincunnu does not afford any facilities to Caste Hindu-pupils for taking their noon-meal and it is also closed to girl pupils.

(*iii*) Kavalam which is situated on the right bank of the Manimala river is a thickly populated area and a big Nayar centre with a Departmental Vernacular Middle School and an aided Girls' School.

(*iv*) In Kunnumel which is on the left bank of the Manimala river and where the Vicar, Kavalam Church, wanted to open a school, there are very few houses and there is not even an incomplete Primary School.

(*v*) In the rainy season lasting for six months in the year, it is not safe for the pupils from Kavalam to cross the Manimala river and attend the schools situated on the opposite bank. This grievance of

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theirs was once before brought to the notice of the Department and they were given a Departmental Vernacular Middle School in which English is taught as a compulsory subject. This school does not now satisfy their needs and an English School has become necessary.

(*vi*) If a school is sanctioned at Kavalam, it will draw pupils from the northern half of the pakuthi and will not materially affect the strength of the Pulincunnu school which is in the southern half.

(*l*) Yes. The Director visited the place and ascertained the strength of the Vernacular Middle School at Kavalam which was 274 at the time of the visit.

The information given below was supplied by the Kavalam Church authorities.

	Strength.
Primary School, Kavalam North	77
Primary School, Kavalam East	37
Primary School for Girls, Kavalam	109

(*m*) The strength of all the other schools was not ascertained as the information was not necessary for arriving at a decision.

(*n*) The nearest school to the proposed school is the Primary School at a distance of about 200 yards. The nearest English Middle School is at Pulincunnu 2½ miles away.

(*o*) As the number of canals and rivers to be crossed will vary accordingly to the places where the little boys live, no definite answer can be given.

(*p*) The Director decided to give permission to open a school under the Nair Service Society, the main grounds for such decision being,

(i) From the statistics of the Government Vernacular Middle School at Kavalam it was found that there were more non-Christians in the locality than Christians;

(ii) The Roman Catholic English Schools do not admit girls;

(iii) The nearest existing English Middle School is a Catholic School;

(iv) The Kavalam side of the river is the better site for an English School;

(*q*) *1st part.* Yes.

2nd part. In the Director's endorsement No. 4373/Z 136, dated 20-5-1924, Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai was informed that his request could not be granted.

In the Director's letter No: 4476/Z 136, dated 6-5-1926 the Vicar, Kavalam Church, was informed that permission to open an English Middle School at Kunnumel could not be granted as the educational needs of the locality were met by the English Middle School at Pulincunnu.

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There was no other applicant at that time as Mr. Yohannan Mathai had withdrawn his application—vide part (*g*) above.

When the Inspector of English Schools visited the locality, he told the Vicar, Kavalam Church, and some of his parishoners that he could not recommend the opening of an English School in their place and advised them to open a Primary School first as there was none of the kind there.

No application either from Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai or from the Vicar, Kavalam Church, was pending disposal when permission was granted to open a school under the Nayar Service Society.

(*r*) *1st part.* Yes.

2nd part. It is reported that the strength is 80.

(*s*) 41.

(*t*) Schools are recognised when they are opened with the permission of the Department and are conducted satisfactorily.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With reference to answer to (*b*) may I know whether Nos. 1, 2 and 3 relate to the same School?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It looks like it from the information before the House.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether 4, 5 and 6 relate to one and the same School?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They may relate not perhaps to one and the same school but to the schools in the same locality.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Has the Government any definite idea about it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, nothing more than what is said here.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know from the member whether the site was mentioned in the application?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information as to that except what is placed before the House.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): My question is whether the site was mentioned in the application?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Under the Code should not the site be mentioned in the application?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If the Code insists upon it, it must have been mentioned.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): So, have the Government no idea about it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government have not got the applications themselves.

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MR A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With reference to the application by Mr. K. Padmanabha Pillai may I know when the Government got his application?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government did not get his application.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know then when the Inspector of English Schools got his application?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is stated here.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): It is stated that the date of the application is 8-2-1102 and that Mr. Mannathu K. Padmanabha Pillai sent his application to the Inspector of English Schools who did not forward it to the Assistant Inspector. May I know when the Inspector got his application?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Probably, a day or two after 8-2-1102.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): So, when the Inspector inspected the locality had he no application from Mr. Padmanabha Pillai?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I did not say so. The application is dated 8-2-1102 and it may be that the application was received on the same day.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Was it sent by Anchal?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): To part (*g*) of my question the answer is "The Assistant Inspector objected to the opening of the school applied for by Rev. Fr. Philip Mattom and Fr. Jacob, the Vicar and the Assistant Vicar, Kavalam Church, as he had already recommended the opening of a school at Kannady by Mr. A. N. Velu Pillai very near Kavalam. He recommended the opening of a school at Kavalam under Rev. Fr. Thomas." May I know what is the meaning of that? The school was refused to Rev. Fr. Philip Mattom and Fr. Jacob at Kavalam because a school was sanctioned to Mr. Velu Pillai at Kannady very near Kavalam. Another School was sanctioned because it was applied for by Rev. Fr. Thomas. What is the meaning of this?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not follow the difficulty.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): It is said in the answer that "the Assistant Inspector—"

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR (*Shertallai*): I rise to a point of order. Is the member entitled to read the answer given here.

PRESIDENT: That is a point on which I ruled during the last Session or the Session before it. The member is not entitled to read.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With reference to answer to part (*h*) may I know whether the Inspector visited only the sites mentioned here?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is said that the Inspector visited all the sites.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : It is stated in the answer that the Inspector visited the sites in Velinad, Kannady, Chalayil and Vallikad.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes. They are the sites apparently which were referred to in the application.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : With reference to answer to (*k*) may I know whether Mr. Yohannan Mathai withdrew his application by any written application ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Whether the withdrawal was in writing or in person, I do not know.

MR. A J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : May I know whether the Government have any information as to the date of the withdrawal of the application ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : With reference to answer to (*k*) (i) may I know what is the unfairness in giving more than one school in one pakuthy to one particular community.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The unfairness lies in that no other community would get a school.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : But are the pupils of the other communities refused admission to any school ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : They will not be refused admission because recoguition is conditional on admission being given to pupils of all communities.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : Is there any rule that a certain number of schools only would be allowed to a particular community ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is no question of community. It is only a question of providing schools when necessary for the locality.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : Then, wherein lies the unfairness ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Because if one more school is sanctioned, another community which is proposing to open a school will not get the chance of doing so. It is as far as possible advisable to distribute the schools to other communities as well.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : Is there communal representation for schools also ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is not that. It is only a question of fairness.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : With regard to part (ii) may I know whether the Government have received any complaint from Caste Hindu pupils that there is no noon-meal sheds at Pulincunnu school ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I am not aware. It is perhaps what the Inspector found out.

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MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the Inspector has written to the school authorities that they must provide noon-meal sheds for the Caste Hindus.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am not aware.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With reference to part (iii), may I know the total population of Kavalam?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Then, how is it stated that it is a Nayar centre.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is the information which the Inspector had.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): What is the basis of that information?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The usual basis of such information—local enquiries.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): That means—

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That the Inspector went to the spot and found that out from making enquiries on the spot.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With regard to part (iv), may I know how the Inspector found out that there are very few houses and whether he has made a survey of the place?

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): I wonder whether the member is not passing on to the stage of cross-examination.

PRESIDENT: I am watching him.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know what is the basis of that?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The same basis that I mentioned before.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With regard to part (v), it is stated that it is not safe to cross the Manimala River and they have no need to do so. If the students want to cross the river to attend the school on this side is it safe?

PRESIDENT: The member is seeking an opinion and not information.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction has ascertained the strength of all the schools at Kavalam?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Please see answer to (*m*).

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether he has ascertained the strength of the grant-in-aid schools at Kavalam?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information. I believe these are the schools the strength of which he ascertained.

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MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): These are Government schools. I want to know whether he has ascertained the strength of the grant-in-aid schools.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Are the Government aware that there are altogether seven Vernacular Middle schools at Kavalam?

PRESIDENT: Is the member giving information or seeking information?

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): With regard to parts (*r*) and (*s*), do the Government think from the figures given for the schools on the other side and this side that a school is very urgently needed at Kunnumel?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a question of opinion.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the Government have sanctioned more than one school at one particular locality?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It does not seem to arise from this question.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the church authorities at Kavalam have mentioned to the Government that they do not want any financial help from the Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

PRESIDENT: I allowed this question of Mr. John's to be included in the list of questions so that it might be an outstanding example of what a question should not be. This is strictly a case of abuse of the right of questioning and I am quite sure the House will agree with me that if this sort of thing continues, the latitude and the privilege which members at present enjoy and which a few of the members, I am sorry to say, misuse, will have to be curtailed. There are one or two similar classes of questions which you will find as the Session proceeds. One is the type of question which is inquisitorial to a degree and, I would almost say, not made with the sole object of seeking information but of making all sorts of insinuations. That too is a class of questions which, if I see repeated, I shall find it necessary to exclude by specific rules. There is a third type of questions which is entirely personal. One or two instances I have allowed to stand to-day, also as an example. Those personal questions, grossly personal, I might say, will also have to be rigorously banned if persisted in. Most of the questions of these types that came before me this time I disallowed and, as I have said, have allowed one or two of each class to remain as a striking example, so that members with a real sense of public duty and responsibility will realise that such questions may have to be expressly ruled out by specific provisions.

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